

**Claims:**

1. A gel depilatory composition obtained by compounding (a) a keratin reducing compound, (b) a hydrophilic high molecular compound having an ionic group, (c) a crosslinking agent and (d) water.

2. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the crosslinking agent is an ionic bonding crosslinking agent.

3. The composition according to claim 1 or 2, which further comprises (e) a nonionic hydrophilic high molecular compound.

The composition according to claim 1 or 3, which further comprises (f) water-insoluble particles.

5. The composition according to claim 1, wherein (b) the hydrophilic high molecular compound having an ionic group is at least one selected from the group consisting of a poly(meth)acrylic acid and a salt thereof and (c) the crosslinking agent is at least one selected from the group consisting of a polyvalent metal salt, a polyvalent metal hydroxide and a polyvalent metal oxide.

6. The composition according to claim 1, having a viscosity  
of 100,000 mPa·s or more.

The composition according to claim 1, in which (b) the hydrophilic high molecular compound having an ionic group is a water-absorptive high molecular compound or a water-soluble high molecular compound.

8. The composition according to claim 1, which further

comprises (g) a compound having the solubility parameter  $\delta$  represented by the formula (I) in the range of 8 to 15:

$$\delta = (\Delta E/V)^{1/2} = (\sum_i \Delta e_i / \sum_i \Delta v_i)^{1/2} \quad (I)$$

where;

$\Delta E$ : Cohesive energy density (cal/mol)

$V$ : Molar volume ( $10^{-6} \text{ m}^3/\text{mol}$ )

$\Delta e_i$ : Evaporation energy of an atom or an atomic group

$\Delta v_i$ : Molar volume of an atom or an atomic group.

9. *Impinger* A depilatory gel sheet comprising a support and the gel depilatory composition as claimed in Claim 1 to 6, provided on and/or in the support.

*Alpha X*